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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)/Poland/Bulgaria/
Austria (Russian Zone)/Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 15 April 1948

SUBJECT

Russian Troop Movements in Central Europe

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. (412)

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REFERENCE CENTER LIBRARY "LIBRARY COPY"Russian Troop Movements in Germany

1. The transfer of the headquarters of the 4th Russian Army from Berlin to the Schwerin (T-46) district between 1 and 10 April 1948 has been reported. This move was allegedly made in conjunction with the arrival of 27,000 troops who were coming by sea from Kaliningrad to Rostock (O-81) and Greifswald (P-72). **Comment:** Since the headquarters of another army has been located in the Schwerin area for some time it is considered unlikely that the 4th Army would also be dispatched to the same immediate vicinity.)

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The sudden appearance in Germany early in April 1948 of a 27th Russian Army has been reported. It is allegedly composed of elements already in the area plus 42,000 troops who arrived by air (sic) from Kaliningrad and 50,000 troops who arrived by rail from Yaroslavl. Units identified are the 42nd Armored Division at Weissenfels (J-99), the 34th Tank Regiment at Halle (D-92) and Merseburg (D-91), the 235th Artillery Regiment at Halle, the 78th AA Regiment at Wörlitz-Halle (D-92), the 94th Infantry Regiment at Halle with elements at Ammendorf (D-92), the 12th AA Regiment (unlocated), and the 84th and 173rd Infantry Regiments at Merseburg. The 12th, 34th, and 94th Regiments were allegedly already in the area when the 27th Army was formed. **Comment:** It is possible that these movements constitute a return of troops to spring or summer quarters or a rotation not involving an actual increase of the strength of the Red Army in Germany. Documentary information from Polish railway sources, however, indicates that troop trains have recently been entering Germany full and returning empty to the east.)

3. Barracks for 40,000 troops are reported to have been requisitioned in Gross Beuthen (Z-71) early in April 1948. Quarters for an unspecified number of troops have also been commandeered at Oeglitzaeh, twelve km. south of Merseburg.

German Police on Border Duty

4. Recent reports indicate a large-scale movement of German police forces from Potsdam, Dresden, and Leipzig to the western borders of the Russian Zone. One report states that one-half to two-thirds of the Dresden police force has been assigned to border duty. **Comment:** Similar transfers have been reported in [REDACTED]

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Troop Movements in Bulgaria

5. The arrival early in April in Bulgaria of eight unidentified Russian divisions, complete with tanks, has been reported. The evacuation of women and children from Greece to Bulgaria and the movement toward Greece of troops in old British uniforms has also been observed.

Rail Movements in Poland and Hungary

6. On 15 March 1948, four trains with a total of 168 cars transported troops from Cracow to the Neisse River via Moravska-Ostrava.
7. An undated report described the movement of several Russian trains from the Russian Zone of Austria to the Yugoslav border via Szombathely, Hungary. It is believed that these trains were carrying Russian war material for the Yugoslav Army. An independent source reports that all Russian war material for the Yugoslavs must be delivered prior to 30 June 1948.

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